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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Nicolas ECHES, *et al.* Art Unit : 3643
Serial No. : 10/522,414 Examiner : John D. Holman
Filing Date: January 26, 2005
Title : SEALING BAND FOR PROJECTILE, SUB-CALIBER PROJECTILE
AND AMMUNITION EQUIPPED WITH SUCH A BAND

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Customer Window
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
Randolph Building
401 Dulany St.
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 14, 2006, applicants hereby provisionally elect, with traverse, to prosecute the claims of Group I (claims 1-10 and 16 and 17) in this application.

However, applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement since the subject matter of all of claims 1-17, is sufficiently related that a thorough and complete search for the subject matter of the elected claims would necessarily encompass a thorough and complete search for the subject matter of the non-elected claims. Thus, search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP § 803 in which states that "[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits." This policy should apply in the present application to

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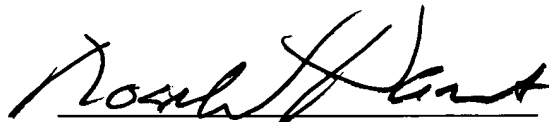
avoid unnecessary delay and expense to applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP

July 12, 2006

Date

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger W. Parkhurst", written over a horizontal line.

Roger W. Parkhurst

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RWP/lmw

Attorney Docket No.: 28971.0132

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